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EASTER 2024

He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." (Luke 24:46,47 NIV)

Praise God—what was true on that first Easter Sunday is still true today. Death could not keep Jesus in the tomb, and death cannot put an end to our stories. When we repent of our sins and follow Jesus, we receive the gift of eternal life. We will share eternity with Him because He gave His life for us and rose again.

Let's tell the whole world who He is and what He did!

NEWS

ENROLLMENT INCREASE

ORU's number is up—and that's a good thing. For the spring semester, enrollment stands at 5,147. It's the first time spring enrollment has surpassed 5,000 students. The number is 10.5% higher than it was last spring. The retention rate, also historic, is 93% among returning students.



ON THE RISE



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Pastor Rick Warren, founder of the multi-site Saddleback Church and best-selling author (*The Purpose-Driven Life*, etc.), will be ORU's 2024 Commencement speaker. The ceremony will be held in Mabee Center on Saturday, May 4, beginning at 1:00 p.m. and will be livestreamed on multiple broadcast channels.

2024 COMMENCEMENT

WALL STREET JOURNAL SURVEY

Current students and **alumni who graduated from ORU in the past five years** are encouraged to take part in a Wall Street Journal survey. Questions concern the participants' opinions and views of the university where they received their degree. The survey results will form the core component of the Journal's new college rankings to be published in September 2024, which can give prospective students helpful information as they are choosing a college. The survey takes about 10 minutes and will be available through May 2024.



COMPLETE THE SURVEY



Pictured above: the 2023-24 Alumni Board and Development & Alumni Relations VP Mike Carter (back row, on the left)

AABOD ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the newly elected (and reelected) members of the ORU Alumni Association Board of Directors! Join us in welcoming Gene Steiner '71 (Segment 1) and Nicole Mobley '02 (At Large). Directors who were reelected are Tom Shaughnessy '99 (Segment 3), Nathan Brandt '20, '21 (Segment 6), Michael Gimotty '88 (At Large), and Christopher "Chip" Bozek (Global Director). The next board meeting is May 2-3.

GIVING DAY

In less than a month, we're giving you a golden opportunity to do something that will have a direct impact on an ORU student's education. On **MANY** students, in fact! This gift is called **Giving Day**, and it's **YOUR** time to shine—to give to departmental projects that strike a chord with you. When you pick a project (or two) and invest, you'll be linking arms with other donors to reach a specific dollar goal. With a few exceptions, the dollar goal for each area has been set at \$10,000 or less, so it's very reachable. **The date is April 10.** Put that on your calendar. Watch for e-mail reminders. For those who can't wait, here's a sneak preview.



THE LIST



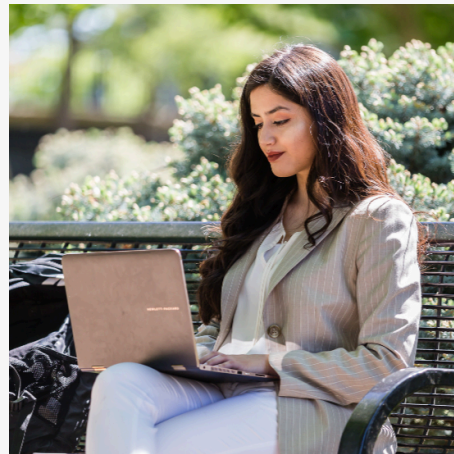
A PERFECT MATCH

Many employers offer a matching gift program as an added benefit to their employees. Does your company do so? You can find out by clicking on the link and entering the name of the company where you work. Matching gifts can double the value of your gifts to ORU...and sometimes, the match is even more than double!

[MATCH FINDER](#)

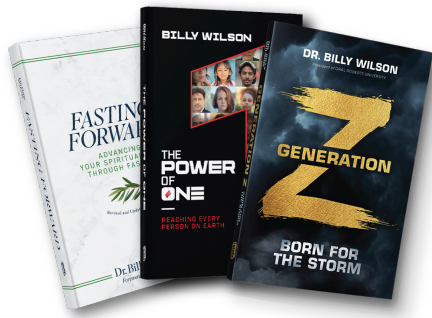
NEW ONLINE MBA CONCENTRATIONS

The Fenimore & Fisher College of Business has added three new, 100-percent-online Master of Business Administration concentrations. The online **Master of Business Administration in Leadership** degree offers students the opportunity to specialize in **Marketing**, **Accounting**, or **Leadership**. It's an MBA program designed to transform students into more than just business managers; it will elevate you into a versatile leader proficient in navigating the realms of finance, strategic advertising, or effective organizational leadership.



[LEARN MORE](#)

DR. WILSON'S BOOKS



Check out three books that were written by the president of ORU, including ***Fasting Forward: Advancing Your Spiritual Life Through Fasting***. This revised edition talks about the importance of fasting and how Christ-followers can advance their spiritual lives through practicing this ancient discipline.

The Power of One: Reaching Every Person on Earth is about mobilizing today's church, and how one person can make a difference. Dr. Wilson presents a plan that calls for re-personalizing the Great Commission and focusing anew on the potential of everyONE.

Generation Z: Born for the Storm zeroes in on a group that's coming of age at one of the most unique times in human history. Dr. Wilson explores their potential to make a significant impact on the world.

[ORDER / INFO](#)



CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES IN LEADERSHIP

On March 4, ORU's David and Barbara Green Centre for Global Leadership presented "Contemporary Challenges in Leadership," a Presidential Leadership Event. President Wilson and other renowned professionals shared insights on navigating the ever-changing business world.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

EVENTS

MABEE SO (BUSY)!

Events at Mabee Center just keep getting better. In the coming weeks, audiences will see Steven Curtis Chapman in his “Still Tour,” scheduled for Sunday, March 24 at 7:00 p.m. “The Thorn,” a stage show that employs dance, martial arts, and aerial acrobatics to tell the story of “God’s love for the world and the spiritual battle for all humanity,” is back again on April 6 with two performances (1:00 and 7:00 p.m.). ORU alumni **John '92** and **Sarah '90 Bolin** are the creators and producers. Chris Tomlin’s “Holy Forever World Tour” is taking the stage on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. Get your tickets now! See what else is coming to Mabee Center by clicking on the button.



[STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN](#)

[THE THORN](#)

[CHRIS TOMLIN](#)

[MABEE EVENTS](#)



[REGISTER](#)

PECE OFFERING

PECE (Partners in Economics, Commerce, and Entrepreneurship) is a Fenimore & Fisher College of Business luncheon speaker series. For the second event in the series, the featured speaker will be Jim Bridenstine, 13th Administrator of NASA (2018-21). He also represented Oklahoma’s First Congressional District in the U.S. Congress (2013-18) and was a naval aviator who flew combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. This PECE luncheon will take place on Tuesday, April 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in ORU’s Global Learning Center. Tickets are \$50 and sponsorships are available.

QUEST DAY

The final Quest Day event for the spring semester will take place April 4-5. With campus tours, interactions with current students, academic info, and details on Quest scholarships, Quest Days give

prospective students a closer look at everything ORU has to offer.



[SIGN UP](#)



TIMKO-BARTON ALUMNI CELEBRATION CONCERT

ORU's venerable music building—one of the original campus structures—will be taking a final bow soon. In anticipation and appreciation, there will be a special concert on Saturday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m., featuring past and current music students. This will be a celebration of ORU Music's legacy and future! Come one, come all to Timko-Barton Lobby and Performance Hall for this one-night-only event.

LEGACY BREAKFAST PREVIEW

"May the Fourth...." All movie references aside, May 4 is Commencement Day at ORU. That morning, the Alumni Relations office will hold its annual Alumni Parent & Legacy Student Breakfast on the 60th floor of CityPlex Towers. This is a complimentary meal for alumni whose sons and daughters are receiving their diplomas this spring. Mealtime is 9:30-10:30 a.m. President Wilson and First Lady Lisa Wilson are the hosts.



[RSVP](#)

ATHLETICS



SWEEP!

SENIOR DAY SUCCESS

It's been an elusive achievement, but the 2023-24 Golden Eagle women succeeded in pulling it off. They beat the South Dakota Coyotes in **both** of this season's matchups; that's the first time ORU has swept the series. They won the second game with a lot of help from their bench: Jalei Oglesby, a redshirt sophomore, led the way with 18 points. Teammates Hannah Cooper, Taleyah Jones, Emily Robinson, and Ruthie Udoumoh were also double-digit scorers in the February 24 game.

TRACK MVP

Abraham Chelangam gave ORU three of its four event titles at the February 23-24 Summit League Indoor Track and Field Championships. The redshirt freshman from Kampala, Uganda also received the Men's Track Championship MVP award—ORU's first such win since the 2019-20 season. Abraham won the 3000-meter run and the mile run, and broke the record in the 5000-meter run to receive the gold medal. Grad student Kevin Jackson earned ORU's fourth event title by winning the 60-meter dash.



ABRAHAM



PRESTEN

IRON MAN

ORU senior Preston Richardson earned the TicketSmarter #SummitGF Male Peak Golfer of the Week award for his finish at the February 12-13 Hal Williams Collegiate. He was ORU's top finisher. This was his first weekly honor. He led the 80-player field with two eagles.

AROUND THE DIAMOND

How much fun was ORU Baseball's 2023 season? So much fun! You can't beat a trip to the College World Series—or can you? Sure you can! How? By going back and winning more games! The 2024 team has accepted the challenge and is working hard to return to Omaha. It's too early to tell what will happen, but a recent Baseball America projection has ORU as the #4 seed in the Iowa City Regional. (Check their website for updates over the coming weeks.) Come to J. L. Johnson Stadium and see some games. Out of town? ORU has plenty of away games.



SCHEDULE

ETC.

ORU's Development and Alumni Relations office has gone paperless. That means when you make a gift to ORU, your receipt will come via e-mail. You can still choose a paper receipt, though, by filling out [this form](#).

DID YOU KNOW?



ORU professors have been involved in a fascinating project called The Faculty Exchange. Short videos of their discussions are on YouTube. You can watch College of Education professors talk about “Mental Health Challenges in Schools,” and Computing and Mathematics Department professors discuss “AI in Our World.”

[FACULTY EXCHANGE](#)



ORU

DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS

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